

REMARKS

Art rejection US 6,456,281 (Rindal) and US 5,347,393 (hereinafter "Van Haaren")

To the extent that the rejection over Rindal in view of Van Haaren might be maintained
5 against the amended claims, reconsideration is requested because nothing in either of these patents, nor their combination, suggests partitions aligned in the column direction, where the respective partitions of a given column are associated with mutually exclusive pluralities of rows.

Applicant respectfully traverses the statement in the seventh and sixth last lines on page 2 of Paper No. 8, that Rindal "shows the breaking of the column conductor (770) ... into a number of
10 sub-cell units" (emphasis supplied). In Figs. 22, 24, 25 and 28 Rindal shows a plurality of unbroken column conductors 770a, 770b

Rindal teaches a different approach from the instant invention. Instead of partitioning each of the columns individually, Rindal Fig. 27 partitions the display into subcells each of which includes a plurality of full length columns. In the embodiment of Fig. 24 a single data driver 710
15 propagates a signal along display conductor 740, having a respective delay element 730 between each of the 853 column tap conductors 770 and the next column tap conductor (col. 18, lines 54-59). Lines 32-33 of col. 22 point out that this arrangement requires very powerful drivers. The solution suggested is Fig. 27. Instead of one display conductor 740 feeding all the 853 columns, the display is partitioned into 54 sub-cells each having its own display conductor 740 comprising
20 approximately 16 columns and approximately 16 corresponding column conductors (col. 22, lines 33-40) ($54 \times 16 = 864$, so one sub-cell must have only 15 columns). Separate drivers may be provided for each sub-cell, thereby reducing the current from a sub-cell load driver 715 (col. 22, lines 40-46).

Van Haaren is quite different from Rindal, but its topography is somewhat similar. Each
25 column is split in the row direction into a plurality of sub-columns 102a, 102b ... or 112a, 112b ..., and each row is split in the column direction into sub-rows 101a, 101b or 111a, 111b. The effect is to provide 8 sub-pixels, each having a different area, which are seen as one pixel by the user. The pixel brightness is determined by the selection of sub-pixels which are lit at the intersection of a given row and column in one frame. Each sub-column intersects each sub-row.

30 As a result, selection of a different sub-column changes the brightness of the pixel,

whereas in the instant invention, selection of a different partition changes the activated pixel location.

Accordingly, neither Rindal nor Van Haaren, nor any combination of them, suggests the limitations of the amended claims which point out clearly that one column partition covers a group of rows, while a different partition of the same column covers a different, mutually exclusive group of rows.

The structural differences between Rindal and Van Haaren, and the instant claims, relate to completely different purposes of the respective inventions, and different logical ways of addressing the pixels of the panels.

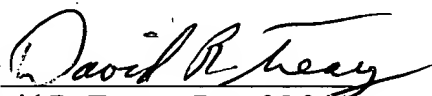
Regarding claims 3 and 4, applicant points out that Fig. 13 does not show a plurality of row conductors. Rather element 2200 is a delay line covering the entire matrix. It does not serve to activate all the columns of a row at one time, as does a row conductor. Thus addressing occurs by selecting the phasing of the driver output. There is only one row conductor and only one column conductor, and this is totally different from plural row and column conductor structure taught and claimed in the instant application.

Regarding the other dependent claims, because of the great difference in the basic structures and operating methods, any apparent similarities in elements are not the result of suggestion from the prior art.

CONCLUSION

All the claims are allowable over the art applied.

Respectfully submitted,

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